Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraph [0015] with the following amended paragraph:

[0015] 1,000 g of the dried fruiting body of *Grifola frondosa* was extracted with 5 L of ethanol at room temperature for 2-3 hours to remove ethanol-soluble compounds. The residue was extracted with 5 L of deionized water at 100-120° C for 2 hours. In a preferred embodiment of the method of the present invention, the residue is extracted with 5L of deionized water at 120° C at a pressure of about 1.2 atmospheres. After the resulting hot water extract is concentrated into half of the original volume, ethanol is added to the concentrated extract to a final ethanol concentration of 50-75% by volume. After the liquid was left standing at 4-10° C for 8-12 hours, the precipitate and floating matter in the liquid, on the liquid, and/or adhering to the vessel wall are removed. In a preferred embodiment, the precipitate and/or floating matter may be removed by a skimming system or by a pipetting system. In a more preferred embodiment, the precipitate and/or floating matter may be removed by centrifugation. In a preferred embodiment of the method of the present invention, the ethanol solution is left at 4° C for 8-12 hours. The supernatant liquid is subjected to separation, and the fraction of molecular weight over 14,000 daltons is collected. In a preferred embodiment, the supernatant liquid may be separated using ultrafiltration or filtered centrifugation, such as with a Centricon by Millipore. In a more preferred embodiment, the supernatant liquid may be separated using dialysis. This fraction is purified to yield approximately 21 g (dried weight) of brown substance. In a preferred embodiment, the over 14,000 daltons molecular weight fraction may be purified using electrophoresis. In a more preferred embodiment, the over 14,000 daltons molecular weight fraction may be purified using gel filtration chromatography on a Sephacryl 300 S column. This substance was positive when analyzed with the Biuret reaction and the Fehling reaction tests, and was identified as a glycoprotein by quantitative analysis using the Bradford method and the Phenol-sulfuric acid method, which methods are well known to those skilled in the art.

Please replace paragraph [0020] with the following amended paragraph:

[0020] Molecular weight was determined using SDS-PAGE. The average molecular weight was found to be about 20,000 daltons.